OCTOBER 2007





Each year your Cottonwood Heights City Council sets goals to guide budget expenditures; and public safety is always the unanimous first priority.

Since incorporation nearly three years ago, the city has contracted with Salt Lake County to provide law enforcement services through the Sheriff's office. In fact, Cottonwood Heights was the first city in many years to actually sign a contract defining the scope and cost of those services. That contract calls for a model in which city officials have direct input

# **A Cottonwood Heights Police Department?**

into the governance of local law enforcement.

In an effort to find the right balance between local control and shared services, Cottonwood Heights participated with the county and other contract cities in a two year negotiation aimed at realigning law enforcement services in the county. This attempt to form a United Police Department (UPD) would have created a regional policing organization designed to permit local control of policing efforts while preserving the economies of scale associated with less frequently used services such as SWAT team intervention or homicide investigation.

The success of the UPD model required the Sheriff's voluntary cooperation. Regrettably, in March of this year, the Sheriff withdrew his support of the UPD, killing any possibility for its implementation.

Since that time, the direction of the

Sheriff's office has been to move away from the underlying concept of local control toward a centralized model of law enforcement for contract cities and unincorporated county areas alike. While this model has merit for streamlining and strengthening the Sheriff's office, it does so at the expense of local control by contract cities. Local input would be reduced to representation on an advisory This centralized model raises serious concerns about the ability of your elected city leaders to effectively give direction to and participate in law enforcement within Cottonwood Heights.

With the demise of the UPD and the direction of the Sheriff's office toward greater centralization, the city council decided to investigate the option of forming a city police department. The findings of the feasibility study for self providing

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# **MAYOR** Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr.

City Council Members

kcullimore@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

**CITY INFORMATION:** 

DIST# 1 - Gordon M. Thomas gthomas@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

DIST# 2 - J. Scott Bracken sbracken@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

DIST# 3 - Don J. Antczak dantczak@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

DIST# 4 - Bruce T. Jones bjones@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

CITY MANAGER -Liane Stillman

lstillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

#### **CITY OFFICES:**

1265 E. Fort Union Blvd. #250, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84047

phone (801) 545-4154 fax (801) 545-4150

**CALL DIRECT:** 

Deputy City Manager

City Manager

# Stop And Smell The – Trees?

"Trees"

I think that I shall never see A poem lovely as a tree;

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;

A tree that looks to God all day, And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain; Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree.

(Joyce Kilmer, 1886-1918)

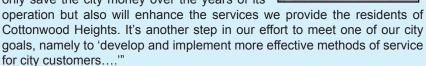
Joyce Kilmer, who was killed in WW I at the age of 31, was very aware of what trees can do for the aesthetics of a community; but when he wrote "Trees" in 1913 he could not have been as fully cognizant of their importance to our environment and our lives as we are today. We now know much more about the value of trees to energy savings, air and water quality, and soil conservation, in addition to community beautification.

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#### CITY ESTABLISHES ORDINANCE **ENFORCEMENT DIVISION**

Cottonwood Heights' City Council has approved the formation of an Ordinance Enforcement Division to begin handling that city function on January 1, 2008. John Lovato, who will supervise that division under the direction of Deputy City Manager Kevin Smith, has been hired and will be on board as a city employee by mid-October.

According to Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr., "This new division of city government will not only save the city money over the years of its



John Lovato has been performing contract work in Cottonwood Heights as an employee of Salt Lake County Animal Control and will serve as the city Ordinance Enforcement Supervisor. He and his staff will be responsible for enforcement of all city ordinances relating to animal control, nuisance abatement, weeds, pests, signage, planning, zoning, and business licensing. They will work out of the city office and will spend most of each day in the neighborhoods of the city as they interact with those who have violated ordinances or who have lost pets.

John Lovato comes to the city well prepared for his new assignment. He has been an animal control officer for six years with Salt Lake County and is a 20 year veteran of the U. S. Air Force from which he received an honorable discharge as a Flight Sergeant. His specific responsibilities included dog handling and law enforcement. He has also attended numerous courses and academies where he has been trained in both administrative and tactical aspects of dog handling and law enforcement. For those who attended the recent "Bark in the Park," John was the friendly officer registering dogs and waiving late fees.

The city will continue to contract with the county for animal control services until the transition takes place the end of the year.



City Planning 545-4172 Recorder 545-4162 Treasurer 545-4175 Finance Director 545-4177 Code Enforcement 545-4169 Customer Service 545-4154 Public Relations 545-4163

545-4160

545-4165

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 545-4155

For the planning commission agenda call 545-4156

For details about the agendas, check our web site:

www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

#### **NUMBERS TO KNOW:**

**Emergency:** Sheriff Dispatch: 743-7000 Fire Authority: 743-7200 **Animal Control:** 269-7499 **Justice Court:** 273-9731

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Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr., recently announced that Cottonwood Heights will participate in a countywide effort to plant 1,000,000 trees in the next 10 years. This effort, being sponsored by Salt Lake County, will be a major step toward the creation of better quality of life for us and future generations.

The mayor stated, "It's not too early for our new city of Cottonwood Heights to participate in environmental quality matters. We need to organize volunteers who are motivated by a desire to help preserve and improve our environment, not only by participating in the one million tree planting project, but also by looking at steps we can take to improve air and water quality, and enhance energy and soil conservation in our city. I invite all who are interested in environmental issues and have a desire to be part of the growth of our beautiful city to notify city hall of their interest in environmental quality matters."

Interested residents should visit the city website: click on Get Involved and Environmental Quality, then complete and submit the form available there.

## A Cottonwood Heights Police Department Continued...

law enforcement services will be presented at a public meeting on October 9th. The preliminary results are very positive for a self-providing model. The Sheriff has been invited to respond and present his proposed model at a public meeting on October 16th. These presentations will further define and clarify the two options now available for providing law enforcement services

Cottonwood Heights It has been suggested that the city will not be able to provide the same level of law enforcement that is now being provided by the Sheriff. In discussions with other cities, many smaller than Cottonwood Heights, we are assured that it can be done (and is done daily in most cities in the valley) and that they will support us in our efforts. Several mayors have advised us that input into law enforcement in their

to our citizens.

community is essential to meeting local needs and defining the culture of their communities.

When we incorporated as a city, we also met with some resistance from county officials and staff who were concerned about the broader impact our incorporation may have

> on the county. Nevertheless, they supported us in our rights to investigate our options and to ultimately determine our own destiny. As we are currently the largest city contracting for law enforcement services from the Sheriff, a decision to self-provide

would expectedly raise concerns about the broader impact on the Sheriff's office and likely result in some initial resistance. But in the end, regardless of what we decide, we trust our decision will be respected and supported by the county and the Sheriff.

Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr. Mayor



Pirates, heroes, and fantasy figures will be available to greet the young residents of Cottonwood Heights on Halloween afternoon this year. Those who drop by the city offices between 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. will be welcomed by costumed city staff members who will help to put fun into Halloween. There will be various treat stops to make in the city offices, each one identified by orange pumpkins. Each stop will be hosted by a city employee or other workers in the city office building who will have treats to distribute to costumed boys

and girls.

This year, we'd like to help make Halloween a fun time. Who needs ghosts or ghouls or bloody geeks, or scary trips through haunted or spooky gauntlets? In 2007 you can opt for fantasy and other "make believe" and be safely treated with goodies of all kinds.

Moms and Dads, avoid the dangers of door-to-door Trick or Treating by visiting the city offices and providing your children with good, non-threatening fun.

SEE YOU THERE!!





### Santa Needs Help Again

Cottonwood Heights' 2007 Sub-for-Santa is being organized and names of potential contributors and possible recipients are needed. Sherry McConkey, who handles this program for the city, is especially anxious to hear from prospective donors. She can be reached at 545-4172 or smcconkey@ cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.

After the very successful Sub for Santa projects of the last two years, the city is anticipating an even bigger and better response for 2007. In 2006, nine children and seven adults were provided with Christmas in addition to a significant donation of toys taken to the Road Home Shelter in Midvale. This was up from 2005 when six children were assisted.

Financial donations and gift certificates should be sent to or dropped by the city offices at 1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Suite 250 or by contacting Sherry directly. Those preferring to purchase gifts and deliver them to the city can contact Sherry for a list of specific needs. Recommendations for possible recipients must be received in the city offices by November 21, 2007.





Have you checked the Cottonwood Heights Website recently?. It's rapidly becoming more user friendly and informative. The city council is especially proud of A Better-Place which provides residents an opportunity to request information or voice concerns. There is also a running calendar on the home page that provides day-to-day information about meetings, agendas, etc. Check it out.

RATS! Based on reports, there is a bit of a problem with rats (the four-legged kind) on the east side of Salt Lake Valley. There have been reports of sightings from Sandy, Holladay, and Millcreek in addition to Cottonwood Heights. They appear to be creating their nests in the large evergreen type bushes that surround many of our homes. According to pest control authorities, aside from

thinning out or getting rid of the bushes on your property, the best way to control them is with traps. Prevention is accomplished by getting rid of old woodpiles, heavy brush, and garbage. Unfortunately, rats propagate rapidly. They mature in 8 weeks and begin reproducing at that time. A litter is from 4 – 8 and females will reproduce three to five times in a year. Cooperative neighborhood effort is required to prevent an infestation.

Plans to build a dog park for Cottonwood Heights' residents are still being considered. A public meeting for discussion of the proposed park and of issues related to the current plans is

set for Tuesday, October 30, in the city council chambers at 7:00 p.m. Interested residents should attend.

# Golden Hills Park Dedication Set



The newest park Cottonwood Heights will officially open on Wednesday, October 10 at 10 a.m. with a ribbon cutting to be held on site. For those who are not aware, this park is located directly north of United Fire Authority Station #116, approximately 8000 South Wasatch Blvd.

The park has a pavilion, play ground, tennis court, walking path, and lots of grass and trees. Parking is on the lot between the fire station and the park. This project is a good example of cooperation between governmental entities. Cottonwood Heights, Cottonwood Heights Recreation District, and Salt Lake County have all participated in the land purchase and development of Golden Hills Park. It will be maintained and scheduled by recreation center personnel.

### Emergency Preparedness Tip for October

Select two places to meet in the event of a disaster. One location should be just outside your home, in case of a household emergency, such as a fire. The second place you choose should be just outside of your immediate neighborhood in the event it's not safe to stay near or return to your home. This information is an important part of your family's emergency plan.

### **Brighton High "Runes"** Honored

"Runes," the literary magazine written and published by Brighton High School, has been named a Gold Medalist Magazine by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association of Columbia University. The magazine was awarded 980 of a possible 1000 points and was judged in three categories including use of color, design, and "strength and maturity of the writing." The magazine All-Columbian Honors in all three categories.

Cottonwood congratulates faculty advisor Holly Simonsen and her talented students for their efforts in developing "Runes" into an award winning magazine.

## **CONSTRUCTION ALERT**

In an on-going effort to keep the residents of Cottonwood Heights aware of what's going on in the city and how it may impact them in their day-to-day activities, please be aware of the construction that has just recently begun on Creek Road between Caballero Drive (1770 East) and Willow Stream (2115 East). Yes, this project will impact the intersection of Creek Road and Highland Drive -Sorry!

The Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities is installing approximately 3900 linear feet of iron pipe designed to improve water pressure and fire flow. Obviously, many in that area of the city and unincorporated county will benefit immensely from this project. The rest of us will have to put up with some inconvenience, realizing our turn to benefit from a public works project will undoubtedly come (or maybe it has already).

For those who live in or frequent this area please do not park on the street (Creek Road) during the construction. The Project Coordinator for Silver Spur Construction estimates the project will last about two months.

#### **OCTOBER** PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITY

Most of what is going on in public works for October is in the planning stages. The only project currently under construction is the culinary water system upgrade by Salt Lake City Public **Utilities on Creek** Road. The adjoining article discusses that project.



## PREPARING TO VOTE IN NOVEMBER

What was originally scheduled as a municipal election with the anticipation that there would be candidates running against one another has morphed into two special elections dealing with education issues.

This year's general municipal election has become a county supervised special statewide election due to the referendum on the School Voucher Law passed by the last session of the state legislature. In Cottonwood Heights, Sandy, Draper, Midvale, and Alta, it has also become a special election on the question of whether they should withdraw from the Jordan School District and form their own school district. Both issues have received large amounts of press coverage during the past summer.

In an attempt to help voters prepare to address these two issues, the Cottonwood Heights' Youth City Council is sponsoring an Election Issues Forum on Thursday, October 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the new Cottonwood Heights' Council Chambers, 1265 E. Fort Union Blvd., #300. A spokesperson for each side of the two education issues will make 10 minute presentations discussing the rationale for their position. Rebuttals will then be allowed before the discussion is opened to the public. Even though there are no contested city council races, Councilmen Gordon Thomas (District 1) and Scott Bracken (District 2) will still be on the ballot, and will be in attendance at the Elections Forum to discuss issues with voters.

For those who desire in depth information in their vote preparation process, the following websites are available:

New school district – www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov – feasibility study

Voucher proponents – <u>www.choiceineducation.org</u>

Voucher opponents – <u>www.uthansforpublicschools.org</u>





WILL BE
APPEARING
AROUND
TOWN
SHORTLY.



## **COUNCIL STUDYING SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

October is an important month for the residents of Cottonwood Heights as the city council is studying two issues that will have long lasting impact on the city. The proposed City Center Master Plan and the question of whether the city should Self-Provide Law Enforcement Services are both being discussed during October council meetings.

City Center Master Plan — The public scoping meeting in response to preliminary recommendations from the consultants was held on Tuesday, September 25. Ideas expressed at that meeting will now be considered as the consultants continue their work toward the preparation of a City Center Master Plan that is scheduled for adoption by the city council at their December 11 council meeting. The October meetings are as follows:

October 2 – Update on status of Master Plan development – Work Session

October 9 – Update on status of Master Plan development – Business Session

October 16 – Update on status of Master Plan development – Work Session

October 17 – Presentation of Master Plan to Planning Commission and Architectural Review Committee

Law Enforcement Services Self-Providing Feasibility Study — Mayor Cullimore's article on page one of this NEWS JOURNAL discusses in detail the evolution of law enforcement services in Cottonwood Heights since incorporation. The feasibility study is being conducted to help the council decide whether self-providing of law enforcement is a better way to provide police services to the citizens of Cottonwood Heights. It's possible a decision will be made in October. The October meeting schedule is as follows:

**October 9** – Consultant presentation on Self-Providing Feasibility Study – Business Session

**October 9** – Public Hearing on Self-Providing Law Enforcement

October 16 – Public comments must be submitted by this date – Work Session

October 16 – Discussion of public input on Self-Providing Feasibility Study.

October 30 – Earliest possible date for decision on Self-Providing Law Enforcement – Business Session

